

VEGAS FANDOM WEEKLY

Las Vegas Fandom's Sorta Weekly Newszine

Bruce Gillespie Reaches America! Vegas Gala Is March 8!

Bruce Gillespie has landed in the United States — and at last report, both are doing well. After landing in Los Angeles, the popular and respected Australian fan, subject of a Special Fund that raised over \$5,500, started on the first leg of a journey that will bring him to Las Vegas for the Gillespie Gala and Hardin Birthday Celebration on Tuesday, March 8.

Seattle fandom, the first stop on his tour, has turned out in force. The BNF from Down Under is staying with Alan Rosenthal and Janice Murray for most of the week.

Bruce spent a good afternoon with John D. Berry and Eileen Gunn and had lunch with the *Chunga* gang, including Andy Hooper and Randy Byers.

The highlight of his stay, Bruce told me on the phone, was the huge fan party Alan and Janice threw on Saturday (2/19) night.

Bruce discovered that there's at least one topic that can instantly unite fans from both ends of the Pacific Ocean, love of Warren Zevon. (Oh, I think they might also both like science fiction...). Carl Juarez, *Chunga's* art director, regaled fans with a chorus of one of his favorite Zevon tunes.



Vegas Fandom Weekly #14 February 22, 2005, is written and produced by Arnie Katz (PMB 152, 330 S. Decatur Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89107; Email: crossfire4@cox.net; phone: 702-648-5677).

Special Thanks to Alan White (photo) and Joyce Katz (proofreading). Reporters this issue: Woody Bernardi, David Gordon, Joshua Andrews, Linda Bushyager and Joyce Katz

VFW is free for the asking — and you may get it anyway. It can be downloaded at the SNAFFU and VSFA websites as well as at efanzines.com

Members (and Co-Past Presidents, 2003): fwa. Supporter: AFAL.

Contact Information

Las Vegrants Hosts: Arnie & Joyce Katz, PMB 152, 330 S. Decatur Blvd., Las Vegas 89107
Email: JoyceWorley1@cox.net
Phone: 648-5677

SNAFFU President:: Michael Bernstein
Email: webmaven@cox.net
Phone: 765-7279

VSFA Director: Woody Bernardi
Email: woodybernardi@yahoo.com
Phone: 327-3154

Plans for Bruce's trip to Las Vegas and the Gillespie Gala continue to blossom. We even found out that there's an extra reason to party, not that we need even *one* good reason. The day is also the birthday of pioneer Las Vegas fan JoHn Hardin.

Billy Pettit will drive Bruce from San Francisco to Las Vegas. Both Earl Kemp and Lenny Bailes have expressed interest in making the trip, too, so

we may have as many as four visiting BNFs coming to meet Las Vegas Fandom on March 8.

That's what we'll be doing at the Launch Pad (909 Eugene Cernan Street), where Joyce and I hold the Gillespie Gala. It's scheduled for Tuesday, March 8 starting at 6:30 PM.

The Gillespie Gala & Hardin Birthday Celebration is open to all Las Vegas fans. We understand that it's a little tougher to make a mid-week party, but we hope Vegas fans will make a special effort, since it's not every day (or year) that we get such illustrious visitors from afar. We've scheduled festivities to start at 6:30, con-

siderably earlier than most fan get-togethers, so that even those who have to get up early for work can come by for a little while and help Las Vegas Fandom greet our guests in style.

We do need to ask for an RSVP by phone, in person or via email to either Joyce

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Who is this fresh-faced young artist who produced these promotional posters for Pia Zadora? (Some of you may be asking, "Who the hell is this Pia Zadora?" But nevermind...)

Give up?

It's none other than... Alan White!

Vegrants Spend a Rainy Night

Bad weather and a small scheduling conflict held down attendance at the 2/19 Las Vegrants meeting, but those who braved the water-logged night spent a happy evening, nosh-

ing, gabbing and even doing some genuine fanac.

The practice of readings made its return, with JoHn Hardin doing the honors. Although I'd intended to begin with Burbee, I hadn't located the material in time. My search *did* unearth a trio of articles with a great deal of relevance to



THE TALKER

Vegas Fandom. I wasn't happen that they were my articles, but the fannish fates will have their way.

The readings went so well that JoHn ended up presenting *Proud and Lonely, Mr. & Mrs. Fannish First-Nighter* and *Cargo Cult* before we returned to the usual freeform bull session. (The subjects of the pieces are, in order, Joyce and my search for fandom in Las Vegas, our first visit to SNAFFU and a wildly fictional story about a number of Vegas fans and their Sinister Plot.)

The SNAFFU Library came in for some discussion. Reaction to our proposal (see *VFW #13 for the detailed proposal*) has been generally favorable, but it has raised several peripheral issues. These include possible incorporation, insurance for the 12,000+ books and concern over possible claims of ownership by former members of the club.

I made the suggestion, which I had earlier sent to SNAFFU President Michael Bernstein for consideration, that SNAFFU could earn some money by selling library access to members of VSFA and Las Vegrants (who would be well known and trustworthy fans, it says here).

This was also a night of memories inspired by receipt of the sad news that FM Busby had died. A successful science fiction author in his later years, Busby was a very good fan with a lengthy list of accomplishments. He, along with John Berry, was the first BNFs who sent Lenny Bailes and I contributions for our fanzine. In fact, he was partially responsible for Lenny and I getting up the nerve to start *Quip*. Buz was one of the giants of Seattle fandom and visited Las Vegas for Corflu Vegas in 1993.

Attendees at this meeting were: Arnie & Joyce Katz, Ross Chamberlain, Woody Bernardi, JoHn Hardin and Teresa Cochran. — Arnie Katz

or me. That's the only way we'll have even a remote idea of how many to expect. The hosts will supply an assortment of goodies, but contributions of appropriate edibles (cakes, cookies, doughnuts, cheese, etc) will be gratefully welcomed (and greedily consumed.)

Fans Get Playful at SNAFFU Potluck Feed & Game Day!

A smallish, but convivial, group of fans got together at the home of Ron and Linda Bushyager on Sunday afternoon (2/20) for the SNAFFU Potluck Feed & Game Day. Besides the gracious hosts, those on hand to demonstrate their gaming skill were Woody Bernardi, JoHn Hardin, Joyce and Arnie Katz, Rachel Hardin and Gabe Gentile.

Fans munched an assortment of snacks, depleted the stock of soft drinks and eventually dined on spaghetti. In between all this conspicuous consumption, they even managed to play a few games.

Rebecca Hardin, returning to local activity after several years' absence, and Gabe Gentile both acquitted themselves well and, it is to be hoped, will show up at more events now that they have survived their first one. (For those scoring at home, Rebecca is not in any way related to JoHn Hardin and, so far as is known, Gabe is not a relative of one-time Baltimore Orioles slugging first

baseman Jim Gentile.)

Joyce isn't feeling her best these days (*see story elsewhere in VGW for more details*), but we attended for part of the afternoon and got involved in the Dictionary Game. One player chooses an obscure word from a dictionary, each participant writes down an alleged definition and competitors get points for fooling others and picking right.

Linda also showed some great vintage fan photos. Particularly interesting to me were scenes of the 1978 Midwestcon, the first time Linda and I met. And speaking of first times, this was Joyce and my first visit to Ron and Linda's Vegas home and I have to say that it is one of the most attractive residences in all of Las Vegas Fandom.

Local Club Carries a 'Torch'!

Woody Bernardi just beat my early deadline with the info about a video marathon scheduled for next week.

"The LesBiGayTrans SF Club of Las Vegas to show 'Torch Song Trilogy' at Mini Film Festival.

"'Torch Song Trilogy' with Harvey Firestein and Matthew Broderick will be shown, on DVD, at our February meeting, February 28, 2005. We'll show two or three films on DVD using the Big Screen TV, which The Center has in their TV Lounge.

"We will begin at 6:00 pm, this will give us

A Moving Story about Woody — Arnie Katz

When Woody Bernardi announced his intention to move to the Northwest, little did he know he would be kicking off the biggest hullabaloo since Chicken Little told everyone about a problem with the sky. Bill and Laurie Kunkel, most prominently among several fans, interpreted "Northwest" to mean that Woody was forsaking Las Vegas for Seattle, Portland or some other fan center in that area. I wondered if the announcement meant that he was making a return to the Arctic Circle by relocating to Canada's Northwest Territory.

It turns out that the farthest North Woody plans to get is "somewhere near the Santa Fe." (We assume he means the hotel, not the town in New Mexico, but nothing is certain in Fandom.) For reasons known only to himself, Woody is being coy about the address and so forth. He acknowledges that he and his sister — he doesn't say which one — are going to share a house.

On the other hand, he promises parties and celebrations.

Vegas Fandom Weekly will have more details when we pry them out of Woody. — Arnie

Las Vegas Futurists (2/11) Meeting Report — David Gordon

I attended this past Friday evening the meeting of the Las Vegas Futurists <<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lvfuturists/>>. Gathered at the Borders (@ Rainbow & Lake Mead) was an eclectic group of intelligent people. It seemed that no one was reticent to voice a



THE TALKER

I will attend future meetings. If discussing ideas at a high level of discourse interests you, then consider attending future meetings as well. (View the website's calendar for meeting dates.)

Gilda Cabral is the organizer of the LV chapter. She does a fine job at it. She whispers the possibility of changing the scheduled periodicity of Futurists meetings to avoid conflict with SNAFFU meetings.

— David Gordon

comment, an insight, or an opinion. Each participant seemed well-informed, and not merely re the topic at hand. Moreover, the meeting did not devolve quickly into a shoutfest, which tends to occur at gatherings of (otherwise) intelligent people who believe their opinion is the sole correct opinion.

Elaine Barans led the discussion of Fareed Zakaria's *THE FUTURE OF FREEDOM*. Elaine was especially well-informed: pithy, incisive, cogent -- and easy to look at.

extra time to show two or three DVD's.

"We'll be there until 10 pm so if you can't make it right at 6 please come as soon as you can."

Fans Try to Rally Filkers!

If you can sing and/or play an instrument and would like to join other local fans for an evening of filk music, Joyce Katz, Teresa Cochran and Woody Bernardi would like to hear from you.

The three fans want to set up a filk music evening. This would be the first such event in town in nearly a decade/

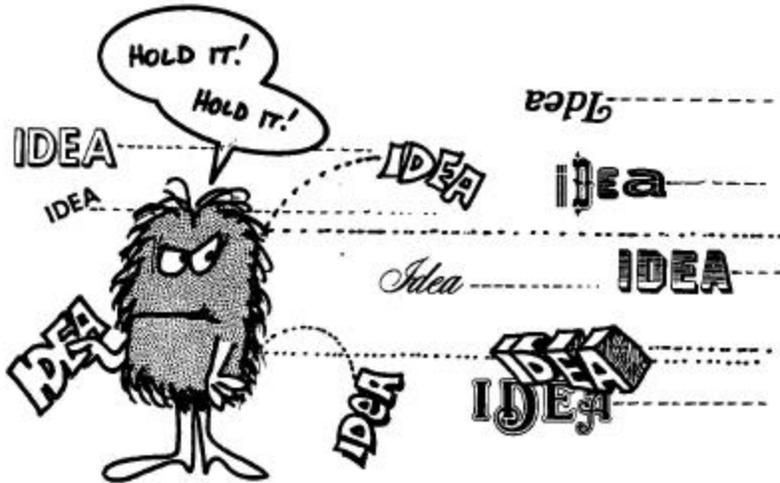
If you are interested in participating, contact Joyce (joyceworley1@cox.net), who is coordinating the idea.

Anti-Valentine's Day Party Bucks the Trend!

No one ever said Joshua Andrews lacks guts. That's exactly what it took to host an *Anti-Valentine's Day Party* in a city known for its fanatical devotion to the Day of Love.

Despite remarkable atrocious weather and lots of conflicting plans for those more in tune with Valentine's Day, Woody Bernardi and Teresa Cochran joined Josh for a pleasant evening of Trivial Pursuit and Yahtzee. (I am not especially good at the latter, but I will challenge all three of these Trivializers any time they want to pit their knowledge against my fast-fading memory.)

Pizza was consumed, though there is no record of the toppings. We can only express



the hope that the topping of choice was Pepperoni.

Joyce's Operation Is This Friday

Joyce Katz will be operated on at the Southwest Medical Center on Friday (2/25). Dr. Morris, a foot specialist will attempt to alleviate the searing pain Joyce is currently experiencing by removing the plate and screws in her surgically repaired right ankle.

Joyce will be home by Friday evening, but she'll be spending her Corflu weekend recuperating at home. Cheering phone calls (702-648-5677) and emails (joyceworley1@cox.net) would be most welcome on Saturday and Sunday.

Eenie-Meanie, Chili Beanie... The Fannish Spirits Are about to Speak!

You don't have to sit home next weekend just because you aren't one of the lucky one going to Corflu. You can soak up some good fannish fellowship — and maybe some fire-breathing chili — at the *Star Trek* Chili Cook-off. Sponsored by one of the two local Las Vegas *ST* clubs, K'Ehleyr Station, it is scheduled for Saturday, February 26.

Fans are encouraged to bring a pot of their chili with them, but it isn't a requirement.

Joshua Andrews (email: andrews1701@gmail.com) can fill in all the details about

what sounds like a mighty tasty event.

Elizabeth Bear to Speak at SNAFFU Meeting!

Elizabeth Bear, one of the most well-received and talented young science fiction writers today, will speak at the February 25 SNAFFU meeting. (See calendar elsewhere on this page.)

She will talk about her work and, it is thought, may read from her first novel *Hammered*.

Event Calendar

SNAFFU February 25 8:00 PM

This formal SF club meets the second and fourth Friday's of each month. This time, it is at Borders bookstore on Sunset. Elizabeth Bear will speak.

Las Vegrants March 5 7:30 PM

The informal, invitational club meets at the home of Arnie and Joyce Katz.

VSFA March 7 7:30 PM

This formal club meets at the Clark County Library on the first Monday of each month.

The Gillespie Gala March 8 6:30 PM

A mid-week party for Bruce Gillespie, open to all Vegas fans. RSVP to Arnie or Joyce.

Las Vegas Futurists March 11 7:00 PM

This discussion group looks to the world of tomorrow on the second Friday of each month at Borders bookstore (2190 N. Rainbow Blvd.)

Las Vegas S F & Fantasy Day

April 30 10 AM-5:30 PM

A free, one-day convention for all Vegas fans. Woody Bernardi is chairman.

VSFA (2/7) Meeting Report — Woody Bernardi

The February VSFA meeting was on Monday February 7. There were 8 fans in attendance; Woody Bernardi, Terry Wilsey, Teresa Cochran, Joshua Andrews, Melonie, Brent Fisher, Jennifer Webber and Gabe Gentile. This is our largest attendance yet!

Gabriel was our newest member as he had never met up with us previously. While Melonie has encountered VSFAans at least once before on a movie outing, though this was her first meeting.

Gabriel is a gamer and Star Wars Fan & had first made contact with Woody on a Star Wars Meetup.com site. He is starting up a Star Wars role playing game and is interested in making contact with anyone who might be interested in playing with him. :-)

This was quite a productive meeting as both Terry Wilsey and Woody Bernardi were elected, by those present, to be the official corporate officers as far as the Nevada State Nonprofit Corporation is concerned. Terry was elected Secretary/Treasurer and Woody was elected President. This is distinct and separate from any sort of Board of Directors which will be decided upon at a future meeting.

Jennifer Webber wanted to know why the meetings were so boring (a woman after Arnie's own Heart I must say). She pointed out that the first meeting she attended several months ago was much more interesting as we spent more time discussing our favorite science fiction novels/authors and less time on "dry" business.

As we get things more organized with regard to our Nevada State Nonprofit recognition and IRS 501(c)(3) status is concerned this MAY change. If those who attend the monthly meeting would prefer to have them be less formal and more fun we can arrange that.

We would simply create a Board of Directors (BOD) and have the BOD meet prior to the "membership" meeting at either 6:30 pm or 7 pm and end at 7:30pm.

We do have the room from 6:30 pm-8:45 pm, I set this up with the intention of eventually doing just that. Perhaps then we can expect to see more than the usual 5-8 fans at our Monthly meetings once we are able to guarantee that no business will be discussed during this time.— Woody Bernardo

"BECAUSE YOU CAN
DO IT" IS NOT A
JUSTIFICATION
FOR DOING IT.



Yucaipa Insurgents Plan Fanzine!

Ben Wilson, who is thankfully on the mend from some recent health problems, called me on Monday (2/20). He was in the midst of the collating session for *Crazy from the Heat #3*.

He reported that the faanish spirit has infused the Yucaipa (CA) Insurgents — and

that they will soon answer the siren call by producing a fanzine.

Marcy Waldie Update

The news on Marcy Waldie's recuperation is mixed. The operation itself seems to have gone extremely well and, according to Marcy's sister Penny, she is moving around

[Play the Vegas Fandom Trivia Game!](#)

Joyce Worley suggested it was time to do something interactive in VFW. So I'm introducing her idea, a trivia contest in which the questions relate to Las Vegas Fandom, past and present. (Let's leave questions about the future for a panel at a future convention.)

Welcome to the first round of the Las Vegas Fandom Trivia Challenge! All the questions will be based on Las Vegas Fandom, so those who know a little about their roots will be able to breeze right through. The rest can check out the correct answer to this issue's question *next week*.

The Rules:

1. VFW will print one question per issue, with a point value assigned on the basis of difficulty.
2. Answers may be submitted in person or by email to Joyce Worley (joyceworley1@cox.net). She will report only correct answers, so please feel free to guess.
3. VFW will print the names of all those who get the right answer. In the case of ties, everyone wins the same thing (nothing).
4. We'll maintain cumulative standings. At the end of the year, the fan with the greatest number of points will be proclaimed the Vegas Fandom Trivia Champion. The winner will also receive *twice* as much nothing as the weekly winners.

This Week's Trivia Question

What local fan designed the first SNAFFU mascot? (Two Points)

pretty well. In fact, she appears to be recovering faster than from the original knee replacement surgery.

On the other hand, Marcy is having some uncomfortable side effects. The Doctor believes it may be too many antibiotics and will try eliminating them for a while to see the effect.

ConDor Trip Won't Fly!!

An unexpected scheduling conflict has taken Woody Bernardi out of the road trip to ConDor XII. The event takes place in San Diego on March 27-29 at the Mission Valley Marriott (8757 Rio San Diego Drive, San Diego, CA 92108).

This puts the trip in peril. Neither of the two other fans who've signed up, Teresa

Cochran and Joshua Andrews, drives so a replacement wheelfan is needed.

If you have car, will travel and want to see one of the better conventions in driving range, contact Teresa or Josh.

Eight Is Enough

Actually, eight pages aren't quite enough, but I must close here if I am to make a deadline to get this to our out-of-town friends before they head to San Francisco and Corflu.

VFW #15 will be out next Wednesday with tons of hot news, features and letters.

Tell your fan friends to give it a download to stay on top of the Vegas fan scene.

— Arnie
Las Vegas, NV